

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6760

As Reported By Senate Committee On:
Ways & Means, February 12, 2008

Title: An act relating to residential habilitation centers.

Brief Description: Requiring an exchange of land parcels on the Fircrest school campus and modifying the developmental disabilities community trust account.

Sponsors: Senators Regala, Zarelli, Rasmussen, Roach and Fairley.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Ways & Means: 2/6/08, 2/12/08 [DPS, w/oRec].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Majority Report: That Substitute Senate Bill No. 6760 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Prentice, Chair; Fraser, Vice Chair, Capital Budget Chair; Pridemore, Vice Chair, Operating Budget; Zarelli, Ranking Minority Member; Brandland, Hatfield, Hobbs, Honeyford, Keiser, Parlette, Rasmussen, Regala, Rockefeller and Tom.

Minority Report: That it be referred without recommendation.

Signed by Senators Roach and Schoesler.

Staff: Brian Sims (786-7431)

Background: The developmental disabilities community trust account, known as the Dan Thompson memorial trust account, was established in 2005. The account was to receive proceeds from alternative use of excess property at Lakeland Village and Rainier School, two of the five residential habilitation centers (RHCs) operated by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). Interest on the account can be spent on community-based services for people with developmental disabilities. Lands at Fircrest School are partly owned by DSHS and partly owed by the Charitable, Educational, Penal, Reformatory Institutions trust (CEPRI) managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Summary of Bill (Recommended Substitute): Proceeds from excess property at the remaining RHCs (Fircrest School, Yakima Valley School, and Francis Hadden Morgan Center) may also be deposited into the account. Proceeds may also include amounts from the sale of excess property. Lease payments for use of surplus land may also be spent on community-based services for people with developmental disabilities.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

EFFECT OF CHANGES MADE BY WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE (Recommended Substitute): The Fircrest land swap between DSHS and DNR proposed in the original bill is eliminated.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony on Original Bill: PRO: The bill captures an unneeded asset and puts it to use for the original intended purpose, to support people with developmental disabilities. This will help fund family support. This is a simple way to help people with no services. The trust is a great safety net for families, and help people transfer to independent living.

CON: This injects another stakeholder into the Fircrest master plan process. The bill is premature. The bill doesn't include language to protect the Food Lifeline facility.

Persons Testifying: PRO: David Maltman, Developmental Disabilities Council; Stacy Gillett; Margaret Lee Thompson, King County Parent Coalition; Shawn Latham, Self Advocacy in Leadership.

CON: Jim Hardman, Friends of Fircrest; Linda Nageotte, Food Lifeline.